



Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Newsletter

Volume 32:2 February 2021

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

It is time for the February newsletter, and hopefully as you read this, you are feeling strong and healthy and looking forward to a realization of the awaited promises for upcoming months.

January's mild temperatures have gifted us with extraordinary opportunities to work in our gardens, releasing us from the confines that we have been experiencing. Aren't we fortunate that we can witness the enthusiasm of nature around us while we are out cleaning our gardens and dividing our plants? Robins are flitting and singing; shoots of new growth are emerging from underneath the fallen leaves and mulch. Eagles become our new alarm clocks, sounding from the tallest Douglas fir trees in our yards. As we cut back and prune our shrubs and vines, fragments of bird nests tumble to the ground. Some birds, like our hummingbirds, will soon be building their new homes

It has been wonderful to see those of you who have been able to attend the Zoom Meetings and presentations. Your questions and contributions have led to informative discussions and some laughs.

As a follow up to Barrie's presentation on "*Basic Pruning*", this issue will reprint a specific guide to pruning rhododendrons.

CVRS Presentation:

Wednesday, Feb 3, 7pm

Zoom Meeting

*"Ericaceous Plants of
Vancouver Island"*

(More details on page 3)

District 1 Presentation:

Saturday, Feb 6, 10am

*"Water Efficiency in
the Landscape"*

(More details on page 4)

In This Issue:

Harold E. Greer's Book	5
Raising Your Little Ones	6
Spring Begins in Ali Morris's Garden	11
How and When to Prune Rhododendrons	12
<i>Rhododendron platypodum</i>	19
Links /Contact Us	20
Calendar of Events	21

Zoom guests appreciated Linda Gilkeson's "Year-Round Organic Gardening". Several wished they had seen the presentation about limiting the tilling in a garden, leaving spent roots, and adding leaves as compost, months earlier, so they could have applied the practice last Fall.

The US Zoom presentations, gifts shared by the Willamette and Portland ARS Chapters, were well-attended. I have a renewed interest in Camellias and in Vireyas, the epiphytic rhododendrons. I didn't know that I owned a Vireya, until I heard the speaker mention the rhododendron that I had purchased at the Fall Convention in Parksville. I now know that my ***Rhododendron blackii*** (cover photo) will require a change in the planting medium. ***Camellia japonica*** 'Silver Waves' is hardy in our Cowichan Valley Gardens if planted in a sheltered area in partial shade. It appreciates morning or evening sun.

These two USA Zoom meetings also offered a rare and special opportunity to see and chat with **Mr. Harold Greer**. Read more about him in this issue.

Furthermore, Glen Jamieson owns a collection of Vireyas. And, now that you know all about growing them, you might wish to ask him about the most-hardy of these stunning plants when we meet at our next District 1 Zoom meeting on Saturday, February 6, 2021. District 1 has arranged for Ken Nentwig to inform us on water conservation and usage.



See you on Wednesday, February 3rd.

~ Verna ~

INVITE A FRIEND . . . to a CVRS meeting

The CVRS Executive is encouraging you to invite a friend to one of our Club's Special Speaker Events.

In February, we have several wonderful opportunities to share what we enjoy, with others.

**Copy and send the *Zoom invitation* to friends.
Encourage them to participation in activities or ask questions.**



Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7pm

AGNES LYNN

Ericaceous Plants of Vancouver Island

Agnes has been interested in native plants all her life. As well as belonging to several nature and garden clubs, including the University of Victoria's Finnerty Gardens, Agnes Lynn is a volunteer Naturalist with the Victoria Natural History Society and organizes their botany trips as well as birding trips. She has been involved since its beginning in 1989, with the Native Plant Study Group and looked after the Membership for several years.

Always active and generous, Agnes's volunteer activities have included cleaning out invasive species, from a previously neglected area at Victoria General Hospital, and planting native plants to make it attractive for patients and visitors. Agnes worked for many years on the 'Wild' side of Beacon Hill Park, and with Girl Guides while her daughter was growing up.

In the 2016 Saanich Environmental Awards, she won Honorable Mention in 'Biodiversity Conservation' and received the distinguished Service Award from Victoria Natural History Society.

Agnes graduated from the University of Victoria with a BSc in Physics and worked full-time at the University of Victoria in Computing, for 33 years. She retired in 2009.

She has been developing her $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre garden in Ten Mile Point in Victoria for over 30 years with, mostly, exotic trees and shrubs but enjoys integrating native plants into the garden. She loves rhododendrons, but believes they need other companion plants to make for an interesting home garden. She also has a myriad of treasures in pots filling her back yard.



Doesn't the Cowichan Valley Have Plenty of Water? ... Oceans – Lakes – Rivers – Creeks – Ponds. .

WATER EFFICIENCY in the LANDSCAPE



Vancouver Island Master Gardener's (VIMGA) and District 1 of American Rhododendron Society (ARS) invite you to a **Zoom** seminar by guest presenter Ken Nentwig. In this presentation, Ken will briefly touch on:

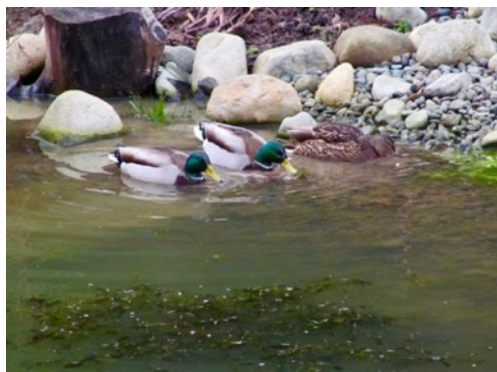
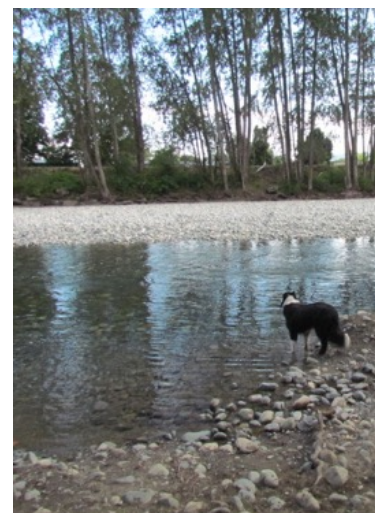
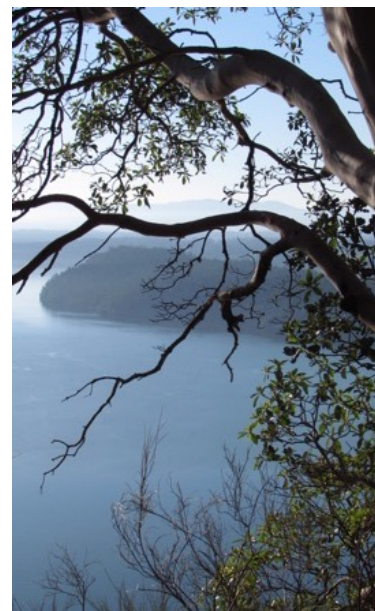
- Collecting rainwater and managing precipitation
- Collection and storage of rainwater and using it in the landscape
- Handling runoff from impervious surfaces
- Natural vs Built Environments
- Rainwater vs Stormwater
- Uses for rainwater



Ken is a retired landscape architect currently involved in training programs internationally. He is a course developer/facilitator at Gaia College and at Pacific Horticulture College, and has presented courses at UVIC. Previously a College Professor at University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus (ON), he took an early retirement and migrated to Vancouver Island in 2010. Ken has developed and manages the Canadian RWH practitioners certification program for CANARM. He also consults on RWH system design for residential, commercial, and public systems.

When: Saturday, February 6th from 10:00 am to 11:00 am

You will be sent the Zoom link prior to the presentation.





Harold E. Greer

- Founder and owner of Greer Gardens in Eugene, Oregon.
- A professional hybridizer and nurseryman, who distributed his plants world-wide for many years
- Highly regarded photographer with photos appearing in major publications
- Writer of books and articles; artistic and scholarly contributions in others' publications
- Recipient of the American Rhododendron Society Gold Medal
- Regular contributor of articles to Eugene Rhododendron Society Newsletters

Harold Greer at the 2019 Eugene Rhododendron Society Spring Rhododendron Show and Banquet
Photo: Eugene Rhododendron Society Website

Greer's Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons, species and hybrids



Greer's book continues to be one of the most popular reference books of rhododendron enthusiasts and growers.

Unfortunately, this popular book is no longer in print.

The Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society has 14 of these valuable books that it will be offering for sale to CVRS Members in Spring 2021.

**Watch for the Notice of
this upcoming sale!**

Raising Your Little Ones

to Become Strong and Vigorous Contributors to Your Gardens

Those little rhododendrons that you received at Christmas from the CVRS stock of propagated rhododendrons can grow to be vigorous plants in your gardens.

David Annis suggested that it might be helpful to hear a few parenting tips for their care.



Does your plant look just as it did when you received it?

Has it put on new growth?



Or does it look rather – well, rather dead?



Normally, at this point in the year, it should look much like it did when you received it. If it looks like the photo on the right, the following suggestions may not work. The small rhododendrons in the left photo did not make it back out to the hoop house. Instead, they sat on the counter in the kitchen where they experienced unusual warmth and watering as soon as the soil became dry.

The CVRS small plants in the hoop house have largely remained as they were in December.



What is our next step?

The person to ask is our very own Plant Whisperer, Allan Murray. Al and Liz willingly shared their approach to successful rhododendron rearing with me just this last week.

“Those little rhododendrons we received at Christmas? Oh yes, they’re alive!” Al exclaimed, his face displaying a hint of surprise at the thought that they might not be.

“They’re in my greenhouse under our deck,” Liz added.

Al and Liz began propagating only four years ago, about the same time as the CVRS Propagating Club was formed. Their success, however, has been much more impressive than that of the CVRS club.

Allen explains that he always opts for a simple, manageable approach. Working out what that process would be is based on years of experience in growing rhododendrons and many other plants.



They were among the group of founders and pioneers in the Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society, and when guests express amazement about their accomplishments, they always suggest their success was about their start: “We were lucky to be there at the beginning.”

One can easily protest that beginnings are only one of many factors. Passion, determination, hard work, and continuous learning are a few among many more that Al and Liz have adopted. Al applied that expertise when his interests turned to propagating and became successful to the point where he decided that his COVID project would be to build a hoop house for his many new plants.

Propagators often find the second stage, of growing plants on, to be the most difficult.



In the first stage, the cuttings are rooted in controlled conditions, generally on heated surfaces and in moisture retaining domes, and often under lights. The choices for the medium for sticking cuttings vary only slightly between propagators.

For cuttings, Al uses a ratio of 60% perlite to 40% peat. An alternative for peat is Coir. Coir is the fibrous material found between the hard, internal shell and the outer coat of a coconut.

When these are rooted, **Al reverses the ratio for his first transplant, the second stage.** Except for some small plants with few roots, Al plants directly into 1-gallon pots, because attempting to stuff the strong root systems into the 3 or 4-inch pots that are normally used, seems to be an unnecessary step that requires much more attention to careful watering.



For his second stage then, Al creates a blend of 60% peat and 40% perlite. For a one-gallon pot a lot of peat/coir and perlite would be required.

Al doesn't do that, and herein lies one of his shared secrets. He creates a special blend that he calls his Garden Planting Mix.

Garden Planting Mix:

**50% Fir bark mulch
50% composted leaves, manure (horse and sheep), and garden soil mix - the garden soil will have enough sand in it.
This has been composting for about 2 years**

A clump of the blend compressed in his fist must fall apart when he opens his hand.

Al chooses the pot size appropriate for the size of the roots on the cuttings. Generally, this means he chooses one-gallon pots as the roots on his cuttings are generous.



In a one-gallon pot, Al puts his special Garden Planting Mix (as above) into the bottom of the pot and works up the pot adding about 4 cups of the 2nd stage planting mix (60% peat/coir and 40% perlite) around the roots of the new plant. He then fills it with his garden mix to the same soil level that the plant is at.

In a 4-inch pot, Al mixes only a couple of tablespoons of his Garden Planting Mix with the 2nd stage Peat/Perlite Mix and plants up the small plant to the level it was at.

So now that small plant is being planted into the peat/perlite 2nd stage mix that it is familiar growing in, plus the special garden soil inoculant.

When the next step occurs, perhaps being planted into the garden, the plants will make the transition more easily since they are already growing in that soil.

The CVRS gift plants that you received were planted into 3-4-inch pots for this second stage, a typical practice. The blend was almost entirely fine bark mulch, with only the 50% perlite and 50% coir medium that was used to stick the original cuttings mixed into the mulched bark. A small amount of Nutricote fertilizer was added to the fir mulch.



Al plans to pot their two Christmas gift rhododendrons into one-gallon pots this week. He believes it is none too soon to do so.

To have your plant look as good as his, it may be wise to follow his lead in this!

By Verna Buhler





The Whisperer's Black Gold

Precious Stash:

- Piles of savings include:
 - soil from cleared areas in yard
 - sand, gravel, and rocks from yard
 - raked leaves from trees including alder
 - fir bark mulch

Commodities/Futures:

- Leaves, gathered and piled
- Horse and sheep manure
- Left to compost for one or two years
- Al turns these regularly with his tractor bucket

Investment Payoff:

- Rich nutritious compost one to two years later
- Ideal for planting
- Natural organic fertilizer

Black Gold in Hand:

- Rich in nutrient
- Clusters of substance that crumble
- Loose aerated texture

Springing to Life in January

Last week, on a nice sunny day in January, I went for a walk in my garden

By Ali Morris



It amazes me how many plants produce flowers at this time of year – it's January! When I first started this garden, I focused on developing a four seasons garden, and it is rewarding to see how wonderfully that has paid off.

So many shrubs that are in bloom now are also scented. The fragrance of *Sarcococca ruscifolia*, a variety of Sweetbox, reaches us well before we move near enough to the shrub to see its nearly insignificant white flowers. Needless to say, the hummingbirds will find these first.

What I mostly enjoy are the brave and colourful wonders of spring like the stately *Galanthus*, Snowdrops; the cheerful *Eranthis hyemalis*, Winter Aconites; the silvery foliage of *Cyclamen coum*, Persian Violets. Soon these fearless bloomers raise their red, fushia, pink, or white butterfly-winged blooms to signal a sure sign that spring can't be too far away.

Keep your eyes open as you drive. Some mature properties and roadsides have big drifts of snowdrops; they are a delight to see.

Don't forget to note the early swelling of *Hellebores* and *Rhododendron* buds; they are so pretty when you can see a glimpse of colour.

Go for that stroll and enjoy your Winter garden.



How and When to Prune Rhododendrons

"How do I prune my rhododendrons?"

The usual answer to this frequently asked question. . .

"Very little. Remove the dead and sickly branches and let the plants grow naturally."

. . . is at times appropriate, but generally inadequate or even misleading.

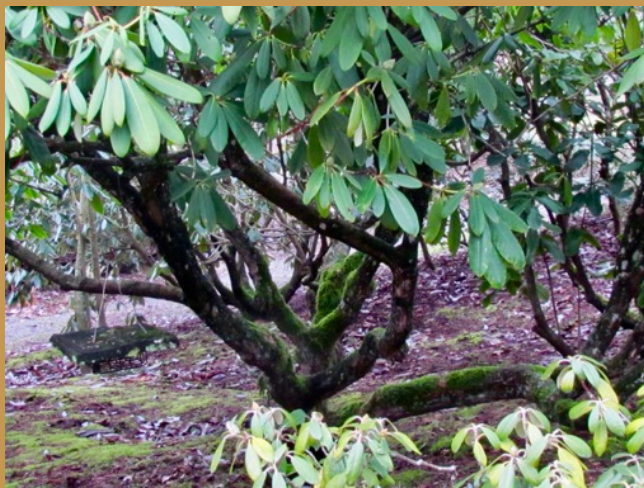
Robert L. Furniss
Portland, OR

Reprinted from the ARS Journal 34:3 1980, with photos by Verna Buhler added to illustrate text

Sometimes this is good advice. It applies best to small, bushy-type rhododendrons and to rhododendrons in woodland and mass plantings, but it is not the whole story.

Definition:

Pruning is the removal of parts of a plant to control growth. More art than science, it is an adaptation of natural processes to achieve horticultural objectives. Broadly, pruning includes the removal of any unwanted parts of a plant, including flowers, buds, soft wood, hard wood, basal sprouts, and sometimes roots. Pruning is not a routine treatment applied cookbook-style. Nor is it a substitute for requirements for vigorous growth, such as fertilizing, watering, controlling pests, and planting properly



A well-pruned, well-established, healthy rhododendron at Al and Liz Murray's

Objective:

Pruning is for some cultural purpose. Before plant surgery, the grower should decide what the pruning is intended to accomplish. Is the grower trying to revitalize treasured old plants, to produce plants for sale, to stimulate maximum number of highest quality flowers, to enhance the year-around appearance of the plants, or to achieve some special landscape effect? Has something gone awry that needs correcting? The kind and amount of pruning depends upon the nature of the planting and the purpose of the grower.

When to prune:

Pruning of hardened wood can be done at any time **except during periods of freezing weather**. **Early spring** generally is best because the new growth then has a full season in which to develop and mature. Pruning **immediately after the blooming period** is standard practice. However, some rhododendrons that bloom very heavily should be pruned **prior to bloom** to reduce the number of flowers and thus maintain vigor of the plant. Thinning the flowers also can improve the quality and placement of the ones that remain.

Summer pruning often results in lush sprouts that are subject to aphid injury and may not harden sufficiently to withstand low winter temperatures. **Deadheading**, which is the removal of spent flowers, should be done soon after the flowers fade, taking care not to injure the new growth. This important job helps control insects and greatly improves the abundance and quality of the next year's bloom. **Soft wood pruning**, or pinching back, is done during the growing season. Removal of terminal leaf buds and shoots to promote branching should be done early in the season or from late summer on through fall and winter.

How to start:

A good way to start to prune a rhododendron is to **crawl under it**, look up, and decide what structural changes are needed. If the plant has been long-neglected, it likely will be necessary first to **cut out a tangle of dead branches**. Then **remove cross branches** and weak wood. **Remove excess branches** to give the remaining ones room to grow. Except when layering a plant, **remove drooping branches** that scrape the ground and provide handy stepladders for weevils to climb and feed upon the leaves. **Remove spindly shoots** that sometimes develop along the **bole** [trunk of a tree]. Remove sprouts from under-stock on grafted plants. These sprouts spring up from the base of a plant and produce flowers of a different color, often lavender. Fortunately, modern hybrids are mostly grown on their own roots, and so remain true to color. In removing hardened wood, make clean cuts, prune flush with the **bole** or main branches; do not leave stubs. **Thinning the small outer branches** is the final step in the pruning process.



Al Murray will remove the tangle of dead, crossing, spindly, and excess branches of *R. 'Conroy'*



Al will remove branches that droop to the ground and “provide handy stepladders for weevils to climb and feed”. (upper right photo)

As long as there is other strong growth nearby, he will cut, right at their bases, the tall and lanky branches, both young and old, that have been weighed down by heavy snow loads and are unlikely to spring back. (second and third photos)

Pruning for compactness:

The compact, profusely budded rhododendrons of the nursery trade usually are the objective of commercial growers and landscapers. These plants are produced by good cultural methods, including de-budding and summer pruning of current growth to induce multiple branching and abundant flowers. In the home garden, the day ultimately comes when the branches become too numerous and need to be thinned to restore high quality foliage and bloom. When this occurs, insect damaged, sun-scorched, winter-injured, and scraggly foliage and branches should be among the first to be removed. Before planting a rhododendron, keep in mind that it is best to select one that will not outgrow the allotted space. A tall-growing variety just isn't suitable in front of a picture window. No amount of pruning will make it fit there comfortably and attractively.

Pruning to a single trunk:

In some kinds of landscaping, plants are pruned high and trained to a single trunk or a few main stems. This treatment reveals the structure of the plant and texture of the bark, thus improving the year-around interest and beauty of a planting. An arched canopy over a woodland-type pathway can be achieved by high pruning of adjoining plants.

The openness of a high-pruned plant facilitates the placement of ladders for deadheading and grooming the top, and provides ready access for watering, fertilizing, and mulching. If a single-trunk plant is the objective from the beginning, heading back can be delayed, to encourage height growth. Also, while a plant is young and flexible, its trunk can be shaped for character by bending. If a plant has branched very low or has multiple stems, it will be necessary to cut away some lower branches and all except one or a few of the stems to achieve the desired tree-like effect. The 'Loderi' and 'Naomi' hybrids and many other large varieties respond well to the single trunk treatment. Bushy varieties do not; for example, 'CIS,' 'Bric-a-brac,' *R. racemosum*, *R. williamsianum*, and others.

Pruning for special effects. Sometimes it is desirable to prune a group of rhododendrons so that the foliage on one side is allowed to cascade nearly to the ground and that on the other side is pruned high to reveal the beauty of the trunk and large branches. Rhododendrons pruned in this way exhibit an unbroken bank of foliage or bloom when viewed from one side and a wooded-dell effect from the other. The exposed trunks should face the North or East or be protected from the sun by buildings or other plants. In general, the profile of rhododendron plants is regular. Individually they are difficult subjects to train for asymmetrical or tiered effects. These landscape effects can best be achieved by grouping rhododendrons of different sizes and textures, or by inter planting them with suitable companion plants.

However, some azaleas, such as *R. calendulaceum*, are exceptions to the rule in that they respond beautifully to pruning for irregular effects.



Pruning to rejuvenate:

Rhododendrons that have outgrown their site or have become tall, ungainly, and sparse of bloom can be rejuvenated by judicious pruning, preferably in early spring. Don't attempt to do it all at once. The plant likely will survive one-shot surgery, even make a strong recovery, but it is no way to treat an old friend. It is better to spread the rehabilitation over 2 or 3 years.

Each year cut back some of the heavy branches to latent buds. Let the light in to encourage new shoots to form. Plants that have deteriorated in the top should be cut back and rejuvenated with new growth originating low on the bole. Prune with the dual objective of retaining the mature structure of the rhododendron and of improving its vigor and capacity to bloom.

Pruning to salvage:

When catastrophe strikes and a large plant is broken or otherwise severely injured, don't despair. It may be salvaged. In the wild our native rhododendron, *R. macrophyllum*, often is killed back to the ground by fire, only to sprout again from the root crown and in a few years regain full vigor. Cultivated rhododendrons that have to be cut back to a stump likewise frequently recover.



Rhododendron macrophyllum

Photo: Hank Helm

***R. macrophyllum* is a pink flowered rhododendron that grows in the woods of Vancouver Island, western Washington, Oregon and northern California gracing us with soft blooms in late May. It comes in lots of shades of pinks as well as a much rarer white. This is the State Flower of Washington. The Western North American Rhododendron Species Project has mapped the distribution of this species.**

Pruning to facilitate moving:

Sometimes large, long-established rhododendrons have to be moved. This is a sizeable but relatively simple job. For best results, it should be done in the fall or in early spring before new growth begins. The roots are cut back (pruned) with a sharp shovel, leaving a wide but shallow pad of roots and soil. Hauled or skidded to its new location, the plant should be set high in loose, well mulched soil. To ease the shock of moving, some foliage should be pruned to compensate for the loss of roots. In part this is accomplished by cutting off lower branches that hamper the moving and in part by pruning unneeded upper branches. It is a good opportunity to shape a neglected plant.

Pruning azaleas:

Most of this article concerns broadleaved, evergreen rhododendrons. Azaleas require relatively less pruning, but some deciduous ones thrive better if the old shoots are periodically cut back to the ground to give new shoots growing room. Some azaleas that sprout vigorously or send up suckers from the spreading roots need to be thinned occasionally at the ground to prevent excessive bushiness. Azaleas can be made more compact by heading back the new growth a few inches in early summer.

Some evergreen azaleas will stand shearing, a practice that is common in Japanese landscaping and which produces very dense mounds of foliage.



Pruning for bonsai:

The ultimate in controlling growth by pruning is the culture of bonsai. Some small-leaved rhododendrons and evergreen azaleas are good material for bonsai.

This specialized aspect of pruning and growing rhododendrons is discussed in *"Rhododendron Information"*, a book published by the American Rhododendron Society, and in standard texts on bonsai.

Photo: bonsaibark.com

Treatment of pruned surfaces:

It is often recommended that the cut surfaces resulting from pruning limbs an inch or more in diameter be treated with pruning compound. Probably more aesthetic than prophylactic in effect, this treatment appears to be optional with the grower.

Basic tools and references:

Basic tools and procedures are discussed in standard references such as *"The Pruning Manual"* by L. H. Bailey and Sunset Magazine's *"Pruning Handbook"*. Detailed procedures for pruning rhododendrons are discussed and illustrated in *"Rhododendrons of the World"* by David Leach.

A final word

In summary, it really is a myth that rhododendrons should not be pruned. The essential thing in pruning is to decide upon the purpose. Then don't be afraid to apply the saw and pruners to achieve the desired result. The rhododendrons will appreciate the attention and respond to it.



Favourite Pruning Tools Used by CVRS Members when arthritis becomes a painful issue



Al Murray's recent discoveries, both hand-sized, battery-operated Stihl's tools have made his pruning tasks one-hundred percent more manageable. The trimmer works wonderfully for most garden cleanup including the commonly trying Felco task of removing dry fronds of fern. An extension handle attachment allows reaching over plants that are difficult to trim. The hand-sized chainsaw is perfect for almost all rhododendron branches.

Al Mikalishen and Verna Buhler have their favourites for the larger tasks. The Ryobi battery-operated chainsaws are available in a few sizes, and the Milwaukee Sawzall Reciprocating Saw with the special-design pruning blades make most garden pruning tasks highly satisfying.

A Species Rhododendron that is very easy to love



Rhododendron platypodum

Rhododendron platypodum CGG#14005 being grown at The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington . . .

is a stunning foliage plant with equally magnificent flowers and is sure to shake up the rhododendron world once collectors and hybridizers get their hands on it.

The large and almost round, extremely thickly textured leaves on very short, flattened petioles are so amazing that we actually take tours through the nursery just to show guests these young plants.

Large upright inflorescences of light to deep pink flowers bloom in late April to early May.

This is the first large scale introduction into cultivation and has been grown from wild seed.

This very rare rhododendron in the wild, can be considered the northern cousin of the recently introduced *Rhododendron yuefengense*, differing in its larger leaves and overall growth habit and its darker flowers that open four or five weeks earlier in the season. (0?R1\4) RSBG#156sd2010

Rhododendron Species Foundation & Botanical Garden ***Individual Membership \$40 US***

- Free year-round admission to the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington
- 10% off in Gift Shop and RSBG Nursery
- Spring and Fall Plant Catalogues (Members get first chance at rare and unusual plants)
- Quarterly Newsletter
- *Rhododendron Species Yearbook* (Annual RSF yearbook features articles ranging from plant exploration and taxonomy to individual species, by authors around the world)
- Voting privileges at annual members meetings
- A portion of your contribution is tax deductible (as allowed by law)

Where the wild things grow



Useful Links:

Cowichan Rhododendron Society:

cowichanrhodos.ca/

Victoria Rhododendron Society:

victoriarhodo.ca/index.html

Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society:

marsrhodos.ca/

North Island Rhododendron Society:

nirsrhodos.ca/ws/

The American Rhododendron Society:

rhododendron.org/

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society:

nanaimorhodos.ca

Nanoose Bay Garden Club:

nanoosegardenclub.ca/

Linda Gilkeson's website:

lindagilkeson.ca/

Vancouver Island Rock and Garden Society:

virags.com

Linda Chalker-Scott:

<https://puyallup.wsu.edu/lcs/>

Steve Henning:

rhodyman.net

2020-21 Executive

President: Verna Buhler

Vice-President: Ali Morris

Treasurer: Randy Bouchard

Secretary: Diane Allen

Director-at-Large: Candice Feeney

Director-at-Large: Wendy Wilson

Director-at-Large: Barrie Agar

Director-at Large: Dorothy Kennedy

Membership Chairperson: David Annis

Convenors:

Sunshine: Mary Gale

Tea: Judeen Hendrickson

Raffle: Hilda Gerrits

Program Planning: The ExecutiveTeam

Fundraising: The Executive Team

Garden Tours: TBA

Library: Verna Buhler

Newsletter Editor: Verna Buhler



2020 – 2021 Calendar of Events

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7 pm:

Agnes Lynn:
“Ericaceous Plants of Vancouver Island”

(Organized by Barrie, CVRS)

Saturday, February 6, 2021 10 am:

Ken Nentwig:
“Water Efficiency in the Landscape”

(Organized by Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association/Glen Jamieson)

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7 pm:

Rosemary Prufner:
“Propagation of Rhododendrons (plus maple and conifer grafting)”

(Organized by Barrie from Al Campbell)

Saturday, March 20, 2021 7 pm:

Brian Minter:
“What’s New in Edible Gardening”

(Organized by Glen Jamieson, District 1)

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 7 pm:

Chris Jennings:
“Shade and Woodland Gardening (General or specific genera)”

Chris Jennings is President of the Shade Gardening Society in Vancouver

(Organized by Barrie, CVRS)

April – Date, Time?

Brian White:
“Vietnam in the Spring”

(Organized by Glen Jamieson, District 1)

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 7 pm:

John Brimcombe:
“Subtropical Gardening Using Rhododendrons and Associated Plants”

John Brimcombe is President of the Hardy Palm Society

(Organized by Barrie, CVRS)

May – Date, Time?

Marion Mackay, Massey University, New Zealand:
“The New Zealand ex situ Rhododendron Conservation Project”

(Organized by Glen Jamieson, District 1)

Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society P.O. Box 904
 Duncan, British Columbia V9L 3Y2

<http://cowichanrhodos.ca>